



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ~~1947~~
1946

J. W. INNES, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Printed by
George Todd & Son,
41-42 Strand Street, Whitehaven

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

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Vice-Chairman Councillor KNIPE.

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

J. W. INNES, M.A., M.B.,
Ch.B., D.P.H. *Medical Officer of Health*

J. F. LORD, C.R.S.I. *Sanitary Inspector*

A. A. BELDON, C.R.S.I. *Additional Sanitary Inspector*

J. WEAR, C.R.S.I. *Clerk (resigned 6.4.46).*

Miss DAVIDSON *Clerk*

Miss G. BANKS *Clerk-Typist*

Miss C. BANKS, S.R.N. *Matron War-time Nursery*
(resigned 31.5.46)

Mrs. S. KENDAL, S.R.N. *Housing Welfare Officer*
(resigned 31.1.46)

PART TIME.

J. STEPHEN FAULDS, *Bacteriologist, Cumberland*
M.D., F.R.F.P.S. *Laboratory*

C. J. H. STOCK, B.Sc.,
F.I.C. *Analyst*

Health Department,
81 Lowther Street,
Whitehaven.

11th June, 1947.

*To His Worship the Mayor,
The Aldermen and Councillors,
Borough of Whitehaven.*

MR. MAYOR, MRS. APPLEBY and GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1946.

There are no major changes to report this year, as in last year's report, and on the whole one can say that, as far as the health of the community is concerned, it was a satisfactory year.

The general Death Rate showed an improvement of 0.7 as against a deterioration of 0.1 in the rate for the country as a whole.

The Birth Rate rose by 2.8 and was 3.5 higher than the rate for the whole country.

The Infantile Mortality Rate—always a delicate index of the well-being of the community—was, at 45 deaths per 1,000 live births, the best ever recorded for Whitehaven, being 16 lower than the 1945 figure and one lower than the previous best record of 46 in 1944. As there is a distinct tendency for the Infantile Mortality Rate to rise from the south to the north of the country, the figure of 45 for Whitehaven compares favourably with 43 for England and Wales as a whole—also a low record for the country.

As regards Notifiable Infectious Diseases, apart from a little Measles and Whooping Cough, we enjoyed a remarkable freedom from disease of an epidemic nature. Leaving aside Tuberculosis and Pneumonia, there was not a single death from Infectious Disease. One hopes it is not tempting Providence to say that 1946 was the tenth consecutive year without a single death from Diphtheria—the ten years in which immunisation has been established.

Unfortunately one cannot close on this note. The black spot of Tuberculosis is still with us. Our death rate from Tuberculosis, whilst admittedly showing some improvement

compared with the rate for the previous year, was almost two-and-a-half times that for the country as a whole, and higher than the average figure for Whitehaven for the past two decades.

The whole question of Tuberculosis is so complex and can be influenced by so many different factors that it would not only be rash but utterly unsound to attempt to say off-hand what is the underlying reason for this unfortunate state of affairs.

In spite of the set-backs in housing, and bad as housing conditions undeniably are, these nevertheless have improved in the past twenty years during which the Council has built a couple of thousand houses. The state of employment and the consequent economic conditions are infinitely better. Can it be that the present state of nutrition is not as favourable as it is supposed to be? One has one's doubts on this score, but it must not at the same time be overlooked that we may still be reaping what was sowed in the past when this community went through such terrible depression. The only fact that one can state with certainty is that there is very great need for improvement and that there is ample scope here for a big effort by the Tuberculosis authority.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all members of this and other departments who have given all help and co-operation, and also the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest and support in all matters pertaining to the health of the community.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Appleby and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. INNES,

Medical Officer of Health.

A.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

I.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Borough in acres	4,315
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid year, 1945)	....	....	....	22,390
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1946) according to Rate Books	....	....	....	6,116
Rateable Value (1st April, 1946)	....	....	....	£102,957
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	....	....	....	£385

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.		Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births—Legitimate	....	252	230	482
—Illegitimate	....	8	16	24
Total	....	260	246	506

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population 22.6

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Still Births—Legitimate	....	7	5	12
—Illegitimate	....	1	1	2
Total	....	8	6	14

Rate per 1,000 total births 26.9

DEATHS.		Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths (all ages)	....	132	142	274
Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	....		12.2	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

		Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 (Live & Still) Births
From Sepsis	....	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>
From other causes	....	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>
Total	....	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	....	45
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	....	44
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	....	83

Deaths from

Cancer (all ages)	....	....	....	....	....	38
Measles (all ages)	....	....	....	....	....	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)	....	....	....	....	....	—
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	....	....	....	....	....	—

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimate of resident population in the Borough at the middle of 1946 was 22,390, an increase of 790 compared with the mid-year estimate for 1945.

In my last year's report I expressed some surprise at the Registrar-General's estimate, and I consider that his present estimation more nearly approaches the true figure.

The population at the last census and the mid-year estimates since are shown below :—

			<i>Actual Count at Census.</i>	<i>Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimates.</i>
1931	....	....	21,142	21,270
1932	....	....	—	21,400
1933	....	....	—	21,220
1934 (Borough extended)	....	....	—	23,185
1935	....	....	—	23,060
1936	....	....	—	22,970
1937	....	....	—	22,380
1938	....	....	—	22,350
1939	....	....	—	22,370
1940	....	....	—	22,960
1941	....	....	—	23,640
1942	....	....	—	22,940
1943	....	....	—	22,490
1944	....	....	—	21,650
1945	....	....	—	21,600
1946	....	....	—	22,390

BIRTHS.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population	....	....	22.6
„ „ England and Wales	....	....	19.1
„ „ 126 Great Towns	....	....	22.2
„ „ 148 Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	....	....	21.3
„ „ London Ad. County	....	....	21.5
„ „ County of Cumberland	....	....	19.5

The number of live births registered during the year was 506, 260 males and 246 females, of whom 8 males and 16 females were illegitimate. This shows an increase of 78 births as compared with the number for the previous year. Illegitimate births were eleven less and constituted 4.7% of the total as against 8.2. The Birth Rate was 22.6 per thousand of estimated resident population, the rate being 2.8 more than the rate for 1945. The rate for the country as a whole showed an increase of 3.0.

The following Table shows the average annual number of births and average annual Birth Rate per 1,000 of population by five-year periods since 1890, with the corresponding rate for England and Wales along with the actual figures for 1946 :—

Period.	Borough of Whitehaven.		England and Wales.
	Average Annual No. of Births.	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 of population.	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 of population.
1891—1895	586	32.0	30.5
1896—1900	595	30.9	29.3
1901—1905	644	33.3	28.2
1906—1910	592	30.6	26.3
1911—1915	568	29.6	23.6
1916—1920	533	27.8	20.1
1921—1925	559	27.6	19.9
1926—1930	485	24.0	16.7
1931—1935	449	20.5	15.0
1936—1940	416	18.4	14.9
1941—1945	446	19.8	16.2
	Number of Births.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of population.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of population.
1946	506	22.6	19.1

DEATHS.

Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	....	....	12.2
„ „ England and Wales	....	....	11.5
„ „ 126 Great Towns	....	....	12.7
„ „ 148 Smaller Towns	....	....	11.7
„ „ London	....	....	12.7
„ „ County of Cumberland	....	....	12.6

The number of deaths of residents belonging to the Borough, after making allowance for inward and outward transfers of persons normally resident in the town who died away from home, and of persons who died in the town but who did not normally reside there, was 274, viz., 132 males and 142 females, which gives a Death Rate of 12.9 per thousand.

The actual number of deaths was 6 less than in the previous year. The Death Rate was 0.7 less, chiefly due, it is true, to the increased estimate of population, as compared with an increase in the Death Rate for the country as a whole of 0.1.

The chief causes of death during the year were Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System 100, Cancer 38, Respiratory Diseases, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, etc., 27, and Tuberculosis 28.

The following Table shows the average annual number of deaths and the average annual crude Death Rate per 1,000 of population by five-year periods since 1890, with the corresponding rate for England and Wales, along with the actual figures for 1946 :—

Period.	Borough of Whitehaven.		England and Wales.
	Average Annual Number of Deaths.	Average Annual Death Rate per 1,000 of resident population.	Average Annual Death Rate per 1,000 of population.
1891—1895	372	19.9	18.7
1896—1900	368	18.1	17.7
1901—1905	368	19.2	16.1
1906—1910	393	20.4	14.7
1911—1915	350	18.2	14.3
1916—1920	315	17.3	14.4
1921—1925	320	15.6	12.2
1926—1930	292	13.8	12.1
1931—1935	281	12.8	12.0
1936—1940	307	13.6	12.5
1941—1945	270	12.0	12.0
	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 of resident population	Death Rate per 1,000 of population.
1946	274	12.2	11.5

The ages of all cases who died during 1946 and the cause of death are shown in the following Tables :—

AGE AT DEATH OF ALL CASES, WHITEHAVEN BOROUGH, 1946.

Age Groups	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	Over 65	Total
Males	10	—	1	—	—	3	1	3	2	5	5	10	23	69	132
Females	13	—	1	1	—	2	—	3	4	5	6	11	20	76	142

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1946.

Causes of Death	Males.	Females
All causes	132	142
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	11	10
Other Tuberculous Disease	1	6
Syphilis	1	—
Influenza	4	2
Measles	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Cancer	19	19
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	19	12
Heart Disease	23	41
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	3
Bronchitis	4	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	7	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—
Appendicitis	3	—
Other Digestive Diseases	—	4
Nephritis	—	2
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	7	6
Suicide	—	1
Road Traffic Accidents	1	—
Other Violence	7	6
All Other Causes	16	17

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

No maternal Death took place within the year.

The rate per 1,000 total births was, therefore, nil as compared with the following rates for the whole country :—

		<i>No. of Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Total Births.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
From Sepsis	....	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	0.13
From other causes	....	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	1.30
		—	—	—
Total	....	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	1.43
		—	—	—

		<i>No. of Notifications.</i>		
Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia.	....	*13	25	8.50

*One person not resident in the Borough, so that the nett rate to correspond with 1,000 births was 23.1.

INFANTILE DEATHS.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per thousand live births :—

Legitimate 44, Illegitimate	1			Total 45
England and Wales	....	....	....	43
126 Great Towns	....	....	....	45
148 Smaller Towns	....	....	....	37
London	....	....	....	41
County of Cumberland	....	....	....	47

The number of deaths of children under one year of age during 1946 was 23, viz., 10 males and 13 females, which gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 45 per 1,000 registered live births.

This rate shows a decrease of 16 compared with that for the previous year, and is the best rate ever recorded for Whitehaven, the previous record having been 46 in 1944.

The chief causes of the Infantile Deaths were Prematurity and Congenital Defects, which accounted for 13 of the 23 deaths, and Bronchitis and Pneumonia which accounted for 5. 14 or 61 per cent. of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period, that is within the first month of life. The Mortality Rates for Male and Female Infants respectively were 38 and 53.

INFANTILE DEATHS SHOWN BY AGES AND CAUSE OF DEATH, 1946.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	AGE IN WEEKS.				AGE IN MONTHS.						Total Deaths.
	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	Under 1 M'th	1—2	2—3	3—6	6—9	9—12	
Premature Birth	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Congenital Malformations and Debility	6	2	—	—	8	—	—	1	—	—	9
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	5
Accidents of Parturition	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Accidental Suffocation	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Toxaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
T.B. Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	12	2	—	—	14	1	1	3	4	—	23

The following Table shows the annual average number of Infantile Deaths and the annual average rate per 1,000 live births by five-year periods since 1890, with the corresponding rate for England and Wales, along with the actual figures for 1946 :—

Period.	Borough of Whitehaven.		England and Wales.
	Average Annual Number of Deaths under one year of age.	Average Annual Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 registered live births.	Average Annual Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 registered live births.
1891—1895	88	148	151
1896—1900	89	150	156
1901—1905	92	143	138
1906—1910	84	142	117
1911—1915	79	140	110
1916—1920	62	117	90
1921—1925	57	102	76
1926—1930	44	89	68
1931—1935	33	74	62
1936—1940	27	65	56
1941—1945	25	56	50
1946	23	45	43

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

These are shown at the beginning of the report.

Mr. J. Wear, Senior Clerk, resigned in April on appointment to a Sanitary Inspector's post, having qualified for his certificate from this department.

Mrs. Kendal, the Housing Welfare Officer, resigned and the Council decided not to fill the vacancy but instead to set up a separate House Management Department. Mr. Garrett was appointed House Manager in February 1946.

2. SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE AREA.

(a) *Laboratory Facilities.*—Clinical material and milk samples are sent to the Cumberland Laboratory, Carlisle Infirmary, and water samples to the County Analyst at Darlington.

General practitioners send clinical specimens at the Council's expense when these are required for the diagnosis of notifiable diseases, the cost being met by a block grant based on the average number being sent prior to the date when this system was introduced in 1941.

The following specimens were sent by practitioners during the year :—

	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Total</i>
Diphtheria	3	13	16
Tuberculosis	9	22	31
Others	1	—	1

(b) *Ambulance Facilities.* The arrangements have been described in previous reports, and the district is adequately served. For infectious cases, the West Cumberland Joint Hospital Board provides two ambulances, one stationed at Galemire Hospital, Cleator Moor, and one at Ellerbeck Hospital, Workington. For non-infectious cases, an ambulance is provided and maintained at Whitehaven by a Joint Ambulance Committee, of which Whitehaven is a member.

(c) *War-Time Nursery.* The Medical Officer of Health still continued the local administration of the War-Time Nursery for the County Council, that Authority being now responsible as Education and Welfare Authority.

The total number of children on the register throughout the year was :—

(a) Under two years of age 21

(b) 2-5 years of age	....	....	....	74
and the average daily attendance over the year was :—				
(a) Under two years of age	....	....	....	8
(b) 2-5 years of age	....	....	....	17

The Nursery has done very good work during the time it has been established, for which every credit is due to the staff.

Miss Banks, Matron, who had been in charge since the Nursery opened, resigned in May, 1946. Thereafter, the work was carried on with equal efficiency by Mrs. Ogilvie, who had been warden from the inception of the Nursery until she resigned at the end of November.

The attendances have been well maintained, and, divided as opinion may be as to the merits and demerits of these institutions, the Nursery is certainly regarded by the mothers, who for various reasons are compelled to remain in employment, as a very valuable help to them.

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Sanitary matters are fully dealt with in a report by Mr. Lord, Sanitary Inspector, which is printed as an appendix, and few matters call for special comment.

1. HOUSING.

During 1946, sixteen permanent and fifty temporary prefabricated houses were completed by the Local Authority. Ninety-eight more were in various stages of erection at the close of the year. These were distributed as follows :—

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>No. in Scheme</i>	<i>Completed 1946</i>	<i>In Course of Erection 1946</i>
Hensingham No. 2A	.... 10 (4 erected 1945)	6	—
Hensingham No. 2B	.... 10	10	—
Hensingham No. 4	.... 102	—	90
Hensingham No. 5	.... 50 (Prefabs.)	50	—
Corkickle	.... 200	—	8

In addition, fifteen houses were completed by private enterprise and forty-three were in course of erection, whilst six flats were provided by the conversion of existing buildings.

2. WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is obtained from Lake Ennerdale, situated about eight miles from Whitehaven, and with the

exception of a few isolated farms and houses the whole of the Borough is supplied from this source.

The water is chlorinated on its way to the town, and ten samples of the water after treatment were submitted for Bacteriological examination. All were reported to be of a high degree of purity and entirely free from any evidence of undesirable pollution. Two samples taken before chlorination were reported to show some evidence of surface contamination which was being effectively controlled by treatment. No question of plumbo-solvency arose, and apart from the regular chlorination, no action was required in regard to contamination.

In quantity the supply to the various parts of the town was on the whole satisfactory—the average supply being approximately one-and-a-half million gallons per day.

Three groups of properties comprising fifty-six houses, with a population of approximately 244 people, are supplied by means of common taps with, in one group, as many as twelve houses per tap. The remainder have a direct supply, either indoor or outdoor, although in a number of cases one tap supplies more than one house.

A public enquiry was held in September regarding Whitehaven's proposals for an augmented supply from the present source in order to meet the increased demands for the town and for industry. With certain modifications, the proposals were confirmed almost in their entirety. An important benefit from the health point of view will be the removal of the hotel situated on the very edge of the lake which, owing to its proximity and the difficulty of dealing effectively with its sewage before discharge into the lake, one has regarded with much misgiving as a potential danger.

Apart from the extension of mains to new properties, no major works were undertaken during the year.

D.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

I. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

Infectious diseases notified during the year are shown by age-groups in the following table with the number admitted to Hospital and the number of deaths from these diseases.

Apart from some Measles and Whooping Cough, there was almost an entire absence of any disease of an epidemic character.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	Total Cases	Notified Under 1 Year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria	4	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	*13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	7	—	—	12 forms)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Measles	86	2	9	10	16	13	34	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	30	2	6	4	6	6	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

* 12 were notified from Whitehaven Hospital, including one case which did not belong to the District, but is included in this total.

SCARLET FEVER.

Two cases only were notified during the year. This gives a rate of 0.09 per 1,000 of population as compared with 1.38 for England and Wales. One of these cases was admitted to Hospital because of special circumstances in the home. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA.

Four cases were notified, but one case was subsequently reported to be negative. This gives a rate of 0.13 per 1,000 of population as compared with 0.28 for England and Wales. All were admitted to Hospital and made a satisfactory recovery.

The following Table shows the average number of notifications of Diphtheria, by five year periods, the incidence per 1,000 of population, the average annual number of deaths, and the mortality rate per 100 cases notified. The individual figures for the years 1936 (when immunisation was first commenced) to 1946 inclusive, are also shown.

Period	Av. Annual No. cases notified.	Av. No. Cases per 1,000 of Population.	Av. Annual No. of Deaths.	Av. Annual No of fatal cases per 100 notified.
1896—1900	7	0.4	2.0	29
1901—1905	12	0.6	3.4	28
1906—1910	8	0.4	2.2	28
1911—1915	9	0.5	2.0	22
1916—1920	7	0.4	2.0	29
1921—1925	16	0.8	0.6	4
1926—1930	14	0.7	0.8	6
1931—1935	18	0.8	2.2	12
1936—1940	15	0.7	0.6	4
1941—1945	4	0.2	0.0	0
*1936	31	1.3	3	10
1937	24	1.1	0	0
1938	14	0.6	0	0
1939	2	0.1	0	0
1940	4	0.2	0	0
1941	5	0.2	0	0
1942	2	0.1	0	0
1943	3	0.1	0	0
1944	8	0.4	0	0
1945	2	0.1	0	0
1946	3	0.1	0	0

* Immunisation commenced in 1936.

It is worthy of note that there has not been a single death from Diphtheria since 1936.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

During 1946, a total of 518 new immunisations were completed, 465 in the 0-5 years-of-age group, and 53 in the 5-15 year groups.

In addition, 309 children were re-immunised, re-immunisation being available for children who have been immunised in infancy and are now beginning school, and for older children whose immunisation was done more than four years ago.

The total number of children immunised since the scheme began in 1936, has now reached the total of 8849, and these are shown by ages at the time of their original immunisation in the Table hereunder.

The position is highly satisfactory as regards the older children, and the number of the "under fives" who were immunised in 1946 showed a very considerable increase. The total in this group shows a welcome improvement over the previous total, and the percentage for the group shows an increase of 8 per cent.

PERCENTAGES OF CHILD POPULATION IMMUNISED.

(a) 0-5 years of age.

The number of children in the age-groups 1942-1946 inclusive who were immunised on the 31st December 1946, and of whom the Local Authority has details, was 1,208. The number of children in these groups, according to a figure supplied by the Registrar-General, was 2,000, so that the percentage immunised was 60, an increase of 8 per cent. over the number for the previous year.

(b) 5-15 years of age.

The number of children in the age-groups 1932-1941 inclusive who were immunised on the 31st December 1946, and of whom the Local Authority has details, was 3,930. The number of children in these groups, according to a figure supplied by the Registrar-General, was 3,850, so that the percentage immunised was 100.

It should, however, be pointed out that the table does not allow for deaths, etc., in the numbers shown as immunised. The fact remains that this group is to all intents and purposes wholly immunised.

(c) Over 15 years of age.

The number over 15 years of age on the 31st December 1946, who have been immunised was 3,711.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.
PERSONS INOCULATED EACH YEAR FROM 1936—1946.

Age in years on 31st Dec. of the corres- ponding year.	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	
0	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	27	Total inoculated aged under five years on 31st December, 1946. 1208
1	—	—	—	2	4	42	125	189	206	168	241	
2	—	—	2	12	13	77	130	139	113	58	156	
3	—	—	6	19	23	73	120	99	65	8	28	
4	66	38	30	29	42	96	109	86	53	16	13	
5	222	139	146	126	162	188	134	120	53	28	17	Total inoculated aged 5—14 years on 31st December, 1946. 3930
6	222	73	68	37	79	116	58	71	48	37	19	
7	145	60	45	30	52	62	34	29	39	11	7	
8	19	163	41	12	32	61	34	32	46	7	3	
9	1	250	36	28	23	44	33	30	31	7	2	
10	1	272	55	23	15	33	28	22	16	10	4	
11	205	258	58	25	27	28	21	17	17	3	1	
12	208	118	63	21	10	30	24	15	19	2	—	
13	211	62	52	20	10	17	17	13	15	2	—	
14	204	43	58	15	1	15	6	8	3	6	—	
15 and over	—	8	4	—	—	65	4	4	—	—	—	Total inoculated aged 15 years and over on 31st December, 1946. 3711
Total each yr.	1504	1484	664	399	494	947	878	874	724	363	518	8849

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Thirteen cases were notified, 12 from Whitehaven Hospital, including one case belonging to another district. The other case was notified from home and was nursed there.

PNEUMONIA.

Ten cases of Acute Primary, or Influenzal Pneumonia were notified, giving a rate of 0.45 per 1,000 of population as compared with 0.89 for England and Wales. The number of deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) was 12, five less than in the previous year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Two cases were notified.

ERYSIPELAS.

Two cases were notified, giving a rate of 0.09 per 1,000 of population as compared with 0.22 for England and Wales.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Two cases were notified, giving a rate of 0.09 per 1,000 of population, compared with 0.05 for England and Wales. They were admitted to Hospital and made complete recoveries. Other two cases were admitted as suspected, but were discharged diagnosis not confirmed.

MEASLES.

Eighty-six cases were notified, over three hundred less than the previous year. The rate was 3.84 per 1,000 of population compared with 3.92 for England and Wales. There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Thirty cases were notified, an increase of twenty-eight cases on the previous year. The rate was 1.34 per 1,000 of population compared with 2.28 for England and Wales.

II.—CANCER.

There were 38 deaths from Cancer during the year, an increase of two compared with the number in 1945. The Mortality Rate from this disease was 1.69 per 1,000 of population, as compared with the figure for the country as a whole of 1.84.

The primary sites of the lesions were as follows :—

<i>Males</i>				<i>Females</i>			
Lip ....	....	....	1	Pharynx ....	....	....	1
Larynx ....	....	....	1	Oesophagus ....	....	....	1
Bronchus ....	....	....	1	Stomach ....	....	....	4
Oesophagus ....	....	....	1	Pylorus ....	....	....	1
Stomach ....	....	....	2	Colon ....	....	....	4
Colon ....	....	....	4	Rectum ....	....	....	1
Rectum ....	....	....	3	Breast ....	....	....	1
Prostate ....	....	....	3	Ovary ....	....	....	1
Cerebral ....	....	....	2	Uterus ....	....	....	4
Not stated ....	....	....	1	Bladder ....	....	....	1
—				—			
19				19			
—				—			

The average age at death of all cases was 64 years—of males 65, and of females 63.

The Death Rate from Cancer in the Borough as compared with the rate for England and Wales by five-year periods is shown in the following Table, together with the figures for 1946 :—

Period.	Borough of Whitehaven.		England and Wales.
	Average no. of deaths.	Average rate per 1,000 of population.	Average rate per 1,000 of population.
1901—05	17	0.90	0.87
1906—10	15	0.77	0.94
1911—15	17	0.87	1.05
1916—20	24	1.30	1.18
1921—25	23	1.11	1.27
1926—30	25	1.19	1.41
1931—35	31	1.39	1.53
1936—40	39	1.74	1.66
1941—45	34	1.41	1.87
1946	38	1.69	1.84

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, ETC.

No action by the Local Authority was taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease of or injury to the eyes, nor was any action required

under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

III. TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows the new cases and mortality for the Borough of Whitehaven during 1946, by age-groups and sex :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp't'y		Respiratory		Non-Resp't'y	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1— 5	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
5—10	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
10—15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—20	2	3	1	1	0	4	0	0
20—25	1	4	1	1	1	2	0	1
25—35	2	4	0	1	5	2	0	2
35—45	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
45—55	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
55—65	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
65 and upwards	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	11	15	4	6	11	10	1	6

Total new cases 36

Total Deaths 28

New Cases.—New cases include 5 Pulmonary cases—4 male and 1 female—and 1 Non-Pulmonary Male case notified from H.M. Forces, and also 6 deaths, which had not been previously notified. Altogether, the new cases show a decrease of 10 as compared with the figure for the previous year.

Deaths.—Deaths for the year were four fewer than in the previous year, respiratory deaths being six less, but non-respiratory deaths two more.

Of the 28 deaths, six had not been notified prior to death as suffering from this disease. This represents 21% of the total. In every case an explanation was asked for from the practitioner concerned.

DEATH RATE.

Death Rate per 1,000 of population :—

				<i>Whitehaven</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Respiratory	....	....	....	0.94	0.46
Non-Respiratory	....	....	....	0.31	0.08
All Forms	....	....	....	1.25	0.54

The rate shows an improvement of 0.23 as compared with the rate for the previous year, and yet it is more than double the rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The following Table shows the Death Rate per 1,000 of population from Tubercular Diseases in Whitehaven, as compared with England and Wales as a whole by five-year groups from 1911, together with the figures for 1946 :—

Groups	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)			Tuberculosis (all forms)		
	Whitehaven		England Death Rate per 1,000	Whitehaven and Wales.		England Death Rate per 1,000
	Average Number of Deaths	Average Rate per 1,000		Average Number of Deaths	Average Rate per 1,000	
1911-15	19.8	1.03	1.05	34.6	1.81	1.41
1916-20	22.2	1.22	1.11	33.6	1.85	1.48
1921-25	22.2	1.10	0.86	29.8	1.47	1.08
1926-30	20.0	0.95	0.76	25.2	1.20	0.94
1931-35	20.4	0.94	0.61	26.8	1.23	0.81
1936-40	20.6	0.91	0.56	24.8	1.10	0.67
1941-45	17.0	0.76	0.55	23.6	1.05	0.66
1946	21	0.94	0.46	28	1.25	0.54

The number of cases belonging to the district who received Sanatorium treatment during the year are shown in the following Table :—

SANATORIUM TREATMENT.

	In Institu- tions 1st Jan. 1946	Ad- mitted	Dis- char- ged	Died	In Institu- tions 1st Jan. 1947
PULMONARY CASES :					
Men	—	17	11	2	4
Women	6	8	9	2	3
Boys	—	1	1	—	—
Girls	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Cases : Non-Pulmonary Cases :					
Men	—	—	—	—	—
Women	—	1	—	—	1
Boys	1	—	—	—	1
Girls	1	1	1	—	1
Observation Cases :					
Males	2	5	2	—	5
Females	1	4	1	—	4
Total	11	37	25	4	19

The above Table shows the number of Tuberculosis cases and Observation Tuberculosis cases from the Borough of Whitehaven that received Sanatorium treatment under the County Council Scheme during 1946. Altogether 48 cases from Whitehaven were treated in Sanatoria during the year, an increase of 5 as compared with 1945.

The number of notified cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1946 was :—

Pulmonary—Males	....	....	....	....	91
—Females	....	....	....	....	81
Non-Pulmonary—Males	....	....	....	....	31
—Females	....	....	....	....	20
					<hr/>
Total	....				223
					<hr/>

Health Department,

81, Lowther Street,

Whitehaven.

March, 1946.

*To The Medical Officer of Health,
Whitehaven.*

Sir,

I beg to submit my twenty-fourth Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

One hundred and sixteen preliminary notices have been served during the year, and it has not been necessary to serve any statutory notices. Only work of an urgent nature has been asked for, and this has always been done without delay.

INSPECTIONS.

Visits to Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	597
„ „ Bakehouses	....	....	....	....	49
„ „ Factories	....	....	....	....	85
„ „ Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops	....	....	....	....	98
„ „ Food Preparing Premises	....	....	....	....	212
„ „ Shops	....	....	....	....	141
„ „ Exhumations	....	....	....	....	2
„ „ Verminous Houses	....	....	....	....	30
„ „ Rat Infested Premises	....	....	....	....	5
„ „ Offensive Trades	....	....	....	....	10
„ „ Caravans attending Fairs	....	....	....	....	50
„ „ New Drainage Work	....	....	....	....	94
„ „ Vessels in Harbour	....	....	....	....	103
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated	....	....	....	....	45
Visits after Infectious Disease	....	....	....	....	49
Milk Samples obtained	....	....	....	....	117
Water Samples obtained	....	....	....	....	12
Ice Cream samples obtained	....	....	....	....	15
Housing Inspection under Public Health Act	....	....	....	....	249
Housing Inspection under Housing Act.	....	....	....	....	37
Interviews with Owners or Occupiers	....	....	....	....	538
Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections	....	....	....	....	209
Total					2,747

IMPROVEMENTS.

Obstructed Drains Cleansed	....	....	....	....	35
New Gullies fixed	....	....	....	....	2
Drains repaired or relaid	....	....	....	....	14
New Pedestal W.C.'s provided	....	....	....	....	9
New Flushing Cisterns Fixed	....	....	....	....	6
Flushing Cisterns repaired	....	....	....	....	9
Additional Water Supply provided	....	....	....	....	2
House Roofs repaired	....	....	....	....	30
Plastering repaired	....	....	....	....	19
New Spouting Fixed	....	....	....	....	7
New Floors laid	....	....	....	....	4
Dust Bins provided	....	....	....	....	53
Yard paving relaid	....	....	....	....	2
Cowsheds limewashed	....	....	....	....	50
Offensive Accumulations Removed	....	....	....	....	3
Houses Disinfected	....	....	....	....	14
Houses Disinfected	....	....	....	....	8
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	10
Total					277

FACTORIES.

One hundred and thirty-four visits have been paid to factories, and the following contraventions were observed :—

Defective Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	2
Dirty condition of Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	6
Limewashing overdue	....	....	....	5
Total				13

In all cases, the work was carried out after verbal intimation was given.

SHOPS.

One hundred and forty-one visits were paid to shops, and it was not found necessary to make any complaint.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Attention was drawn to the excessive amount of smoke emitted from the chimney of one factory and improvements were made.

VERMINOUS HOUSES.

The number of houses found to be infested with vermin was 8, viz.:—

Council Houses	....	....	....	....	....	4
Other Houses	....	....	....	....	....	4

One of the cases in Council houses was bad, and the skirting boards, picture rails, etc., had to be removed and the house fumigated with Cimex. In other cases, the houses were sprayed with Zaldecide.

HOUSING.

No systematic work has been done during the year, and inspections have been confined to premises in respect of which complaint has been received.

During the year Demolition Orders were made on three houses, two of which had become dangerous, and the third had been subject to flooding. Seven tenants were involved in the three houses, and two remained to be re-housed at the end of the year.

These invariably refer to properties scheduled as Clearance Areas, and defects or nuisances of an urgent nature have been remedied, but no work involving extensive repair or alteration has been attempted.

OVERCROWDING.

No accurate figure can be given regarding overcrowding. Owing to the difficult conditions existing at present, it is not possible to insist on the fixed standard being maintained, but wherever it is possible to do so, bad cases are dealt with by arranging an exchange in the case of Council houses, and by arrangement with the owners where privately owned property is involved.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 25 producers resident in the Borough, viz.:—
1 Tuberculin Tested, 15 accredited, and 9 ungraded. In addition 10 outside producers, viz.:—4 Tuberculin Tested, 3 accredited, 2 ungraded, and 1 pasteurised, supply milk either wholesale or retail in Whitehaven.

There are 27 retailers registered for the sale of milk, viz.:—

12 Producer-Retailers resident in the Borough.

3 Producer-Retailers resident outside the Borough.

12 Retailers resident inside or outside the Borough.

SAMPLES.

During the year 117 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results being as follows :—

<i>Grade</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
T.T.	26	17—65%	9—35%
Accredited	64	54—84%	10—16%
Ungraded	27	16—59%	11—41%

The standard taken as satisfactory for Ungraded milk is that of Accredited milk.

Sixty-one samples were examined for T.B., and all were negative.

Ninety eight visits have been paid to the Cowsheds and dairies, and generally they have been found satisfactory.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The central slaughterhouse, where slaughtering is still carried on for the districts of Whitehaven, Workington, and Ennerdale Rural, has been conducted satisfactorily.

As in previous years, 100 per cent. inspection has been maintained, and one Inspector is employed practically full-time at the slaughterhouse.

The relations between the members of the department with the slaughterhouse manager, the Wholesale Meat Agent, and the Retail Buying Committee have continued to be satisfactory.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the condemnations during the year.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,517	1,062	4,378	20,668	196
Number inspected	2,517	1,062	4,378	20,668	196
<i>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	13	48	33	67	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	56		9	106	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	3.27		0.96	0.84	4.08
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	8	47	7	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	59	1	5	—	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	18.03		0.25	—	3.06

Total Weight of Meat Condemned, 50 tons, 16 cwts, 49 lbs.

OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD SURRENDERED.

Miscellaneous Tinned Meats	....	....	....	3047lbs.
Miscellaneous Tinned Fruit and Vegetables	....			671lbs.
Tinned Milk	....	....	....	361lbs.
Tinned Fish	....	....	....	164lbs.
Frozen Beef	....	....	....	215lbs.
Bacon, Ham, Pork	....	....	....	52lbs.
Eggs	....	....	....	39lbs.
Fish (Dried)	....	....	....	490lbs.
Fish Cakes	....	....	....	409lbs.
Fish (Wet)	....	....	....	240lbs.
Pies	....	....	....	124lbs.
Various	....	....	....	81lbs.
Total				5,893lbs.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is still only one offensive trade on the Register, viz.:—A Rag and Bone Dealer.

Ten visits have been paid to the premises and generally they have been conducted satisfactorily.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. LORD,

Sanitary Inspector.

